

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 OMB-01 AID-20 OPR-02 SY-10

IO-14 DRC-01 CU-04 /129 W
----- 070641

O R 110312Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9632

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL UDORN

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 0550

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS, PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: BANGKOK SITUATION REPORT AS OF 1000 JANUARY 11

REF: A. BANGKOK 540; B. FBIS BANGKOK D110240Z JAN 74;
C & D. FBIS BANGKOK D110315Z & D110345Z JAN 74; E. BANGKOK 477

1. POLICE SOURCES INFORM US THAT A GROUP OF THAMMASAT STUDENTS WILL BE LEAVING THEIR CAMPUS FOR THE EMBASSY ABOUT 1000 THIS MORNING AND HOPE TO PICK UP STUDENT SUPPORTERS EN ROUTE. A CHECK WITH A SOURCE AT THAMMASAT AT 0930, HOWEVER, REVEALED NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY THERE. WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHETHER THEY WILL BE COMING, IF THEY COME, TO PRESENT A PETITION OR TO DEMONSTRATE AS THEY DID THE EVENING OF JANUARY 9. SINCE THE POLICE ARE COOPERATING CLOSELY
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WITH THE STUDENTS, PRINCIPALLY TO BE ABLE TO CONTROL THEM, WE

SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE MONITORING THE SITUATION THROUGH OUR POLICE CONTACTS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE JANUARY 11 EDITION OF "THE NATION," STUDENT LEADERS MET YESTERDAY AFTERNOON (REF A) WITH PRIME MINISTER SANYA THAMMASAK, POLICE DIRECTOR GENERAL PRACHUAB SUNTARANGKUL AND POLICE MAJ. GENERAL VITOON YASAWAD. WE CANNOT YET CONFIRM THE EXTENSIVE QUOTES BY VITOON ABOUT THE CIA ROLE IN THAILAND CARRIED IN "THE NATION." THE NAMING OF "THE PRIME CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OPERATIVE IN THAILAND... OFFICIALLY ATTACHED TO THE U.S. EMBASSY," WAS NOT A HELPFUL GESTURE (REF B).

3. THE JANUARY 11 "BANGKOK POST" PUTS THE U.S. ROLE IN THAILAND IN A SOMEWHAT MORE BALANCED PERSPECTIVE THAN THE PRESS HAS RECENTLY BEEN TREATING IT. AN EDITORIAL AND THINK PIECE ON PAGE 8 (REFS C AND D) OF THE "BANGKOK POST" ARE REASONABLY POSITIVE IN THIS RESPECT. THE EDITORIAL, FOR EXAMPLE, CONDEMNS THE BURNING OF THE REPLICAL OF THE AMERICAN FLAG IN CHIANG MAI.

4. GENERAL KRIS SIVARA IS QUOTED IN THE JANUARY 11 EDITION OF "THE NATION" AS SAYING: "WE DON'T NEED THE CIA TO HELP US, BUT WE DO NEED THE U.S. IN THAILAND."

5. THE JANUARY 11 EDITION OF "THE NATION" CARRIES THE TEXT OF A LETTER OF PROTEST THAT THE PEOPLE FOR DEMOCRACY GROUP ALLEGEDLY HANDED TO PRIME MINISTER SANYA JANUARY 10. THIRAYUDH BOONMEE, GROUP COORDINATOR, SIGNED IT. THIS COULD BE THE LETTER MENTIONED IN REF E THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT NIXON. THE REPORTED TEXT FOLLOWS:

QTE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM R. KINTNER AS AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND HAS CAUSED ANGER AND GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT AMONG THAI PEOPLE BECAUSE OF HIS CLOSE CONNECTION WITH UNDESIRABLE CIA AND HIS PREVIOUS INTERFERENCE IN POLITICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS OF ASIAN NATIONS. HE HAS LET CIA FAKE A LETTER FROM A COMMUNIST TO PRIME MINISTER SANYA DHAMASAKTI AND IS EXTREMELY HOSTILE TO THAI PEOPLE'S AND THAILAND'S INTERESTS. WE DEMAND HIS REMOVAL AND IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF CIA ACTIVITIES AND U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN OUR COUNTRY. (SIGNED) PEOPLE FOR DEMOCRACY, BANGKOK. UNQTE KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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